

**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY**

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING  
*of the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
*and the*  
SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 26, 2002

**1. Call to order.**

The joint meeting of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Advisory Committee was called to order by Conservancy Chair Michael Berger, at 7:37 p.m. on August 26, 2002 at Temescal Canyon Conference and Retreat Center, 16501 Sunset Boulevard, Pacific Palisades, California.

**2. Roll Call of Conservancy.**

The Conservancy roll was called and the following members were present: Russell Guiney, Hal Ross, Steve Treanor, Jonathan Zasloff, Jerome C. Daniel, Vice Chair, and Michael Berger, Chair. The following members were absent: Ed Begley, Elizabeth Cheadle, Woody Smeck, David Allgood, and Steve Horn. Quorum present.

The following Legislative member designees were present: Laura Plotkin and Mary Sue Maurer. The following Legislative member designees were absent: Henry Lo, George Magallanes, and Scott Svonkin. The following member was present subsequent to roll call: Susan McEntire.

**3. Roll Call of Advisory Committee.**

The Advisory Committee roll was called and the following members were present: Caroline Brown, Dave Brown, Michael Cacciotti, Ed Corridori, Mark Johnson, Barry Read, Anthony Portantino, Rick Gould, Alan Kishbaugh, Paul Rockenstein, Thomas Seifert, Charles Beatty, Nancy Stephens, Kenneth Warner, Timothy Wendler, Don Robinson, Vice Chair, and George Lange, Chair. Quorum present. The following members were absent: Lesley Devine, Jeff Jennings, Terre Hirsch, Roseann Mikos, and Lee Bycel. The following members were present subsequent to roll call: Colleen Briner-Schmidt, Marc Stirdivant, and Linda Palmer.

Staff present: Joseph T. Edmiston, AICP, Executive Director; Rorie Skei, Chief Deputy Director; Laurie Collins, Chief Counsel; MRCA staff: Amy Lethbridge, Deputy Executive Officer and Chief of Education and Interpretation; Katherine Chew, Staff Counsel; Juliet

Chung, Associate Governmental Program Analyst; Cara McLane, Project Analyst, Susan Shanks, Project Analyst, Chuck Arnold, Project Analyst, Tracy Dockery, Staff Services Manager, and James Yeramian, Board Secretary.

Representing the Office of the Attorney General was Nedra Austin, Deputy Attorney General.

**4. Minutes.**

No minutes were submitted.

**5. Reports.**

Comments were made by the Chair and Mr. Daniel.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from the Executive Director.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Skei.

[Ms. Palmer arrived at 7:48 p.m.]

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Miller.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Ms. Lethbridge.

The Conservancy received a verbal report from Mr. Young.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Mr. Young.

**6. Special recognition of former Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority staff member Elsa Luna.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Luna.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins regarding the addition of an emergency item to the Conservancy Agenda pursuant to Government Code Section 11125.3.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Mr. Lange.

A roll call vote was administered.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Beatty, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adding emergency item 12(a) to the agenda.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy added emergency item 12(a) to the agenda.

**7. Members comments on matters not on the agenda.**

Comments were made by Mr. Zasloff.

[Ms. McEntire arrived at 8:01 p.m.]

**8. Comments from members of the public on items not on the agenda and public testimony on all agenda items.**

The following persons addressed the Conservancy:

Mr. Hans Laetz, representing the Friends of Trancas Canyon, on item 9(i).  
Mr. Dorian Keyser, representing the Santa Susana Mountains Park Association.  
Mr. Don Mullally, representing the Santa Clarita Woodlands Park Consortium, on items 12 and 13.  
Ms. Loretta Ditlow, representing the Brentwood Hills Homeowners Association, on items not on the agenda.

[Mr. Stirdivant arrived at 8:15 p.m.]

**9. Consent Calendar:**

- (a) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority enter into a Cooperative Management Agreement with the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority for the management of Whitney Canyon Park, Santa Clarita.**
- (b) Consideration of resolution (a) recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority acquire tax defaulted properties in Los Angeles**

**County pursuant to Division 1, Part 6, Chapter 8 of the revenue and taxation code that are contained within Chapter 8 Agreement Nos. 2185- 2189; 2190; 2192, and 2210- 2213; (b) recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept donations and public funding to acquire said properties, and (c) authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Contingency Fund to partially fund those acquisitions in the City of Los Angeles portion of the Santa Monica Mountains.**

- (c) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority authorize (a) relocation of a required trail easement located on Lot 1 of APN 4452-025-014, near Sweetwater Mesa Road; (b) acceptance of said easement, and (c) acceptance of payment for relocation, Malibu.**
- (d) Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority accept the following offers to dedicate: Haynie / P-80-6781; Glazer/Monkarsh / P-81-7716; Haynie / P-81-7896; Haigh/ Rosenberg / P-79-5907, and McKenzie / 5-81-192.**
- (e) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Malibu on General Plan Amendment No. 02-002, Zoning Map Amendment No. 02-002, and Negative Declaration No. 02-003, Latigo Canyon and Solstice Canyon watersheds.**
- (f) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for trailhead improvements on the 21000 Mulholland Drive property, Woodland Hills area, Los Angeles.**
- (g) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter on the Initial Study for the Annadale Canyon Estates project in the San Rafael Hills, Pasadena.**
- (h) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works on the Draft Landscaping Guidelines for the Los Angeles River.**
- (i) Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works on the Trancas Water Pollution Control Plant Rehabilitation Project, Malibu.**

- (j) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Whittier Puente Hills Conservation Authority, with reimbursement to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Arroyo Pescadero Trailhead project, Whittier.**
- (k) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the expenditure of funds from the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains Contingency Fund to make payments on the Oakshire Canyon project (APN 2427-006-005) and Oak Forest Canyon project (APN 2274-025-001), Los Angeles.**
- (l) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Las Lomas Annexation Project, 23110 and 23500 The Old Road, between Interstate 5, Highway 14, and Calgrove Boulevard, unincorporated Newhall Area.**
- (m) **Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on proposed residential project located at 8701 Mulholland Drive (DIR 2002-4045), Los Angeles.**
- (n) **Consideration of resolution authorizing the Chair to designate a Conservancy representative to fill a vacancy on the Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority Governing Board.**

Item 9(i) was removed from the Consent Calender.

Mr. Portantino recused himself from item 9(i).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution Nos. 02-95, 02-96, 02-97, 02-98, 02-99, 02-100, 02-101, 02-102, 02-104, 02-105, 02-106, 02-107, and 02-108.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution Nos. 02-95, 02-96, 02-97, 02-98, 02-99, 02-100, 02-101, 02-102, 02-104, 02-105, 02-106, 02-107, and 02-108.

*(The full text of these resolutions are attached.)*

**9(i). Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works on the Trancas Water Pollution Control Plant Rehabilitation Project, Malibu.**

Comments were made by Ms. Palmer.

[Ms. Briner-Schmidt arrived at 8:32 p.m.]

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Read.

Comments were made by Ms. Tamasi.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Read.

Comments were made by Ms. Tamasi.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Beatty, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-103.

**CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Treanor, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-103.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Ross.

Comments were made by Ms. Tamasi.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Ross.

Comments were made by Mr. Laetz.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**10. Consideration of resolution rescinding Resolution No. 02-86 and authorizing a comment letter to the City of Pasadena on the Arroyo Seco Master Plan and Draft**

## **Master Environmental Impact Report for the Arroyo Seco Master Plan Project.**

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Questions were propounded by Mr. Beatty.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

Comments were made by Messrs. Wendler, Warner, Portantino, Seifert, Lange and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Kishbaugh.

Comments were made by Ms. McLane.

Comments were made by Ms. McEntire, Mr. Kishbaugh and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-109.

### **CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-109.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

- 11. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the City of Calabasas to acquire a 19-acre property (APN 4434-003-040) in the Summit Valley-North Addition project area, unincorporated Topanga area.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report on the item.

Comments were made by Mr. Brown, Ms. Palmer, and the Executive Director.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:**

On motion of Ms. Palmer, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-110.

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CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-110.

Comments were made by Ms. Plotkin.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

- 12. Consideration of resolution (a) amending the Initial Workprogram for Safe Neighborhood Parks Act of 1996 (Proposition A) to include Browns Canyon-Central, Devil/Ybarra Canyons-Central, and Santa Santa Susana Mountains-Joughin Ranch and Joughin Ranch inholdings project areas, and (b) adopting the Project Plan for Browns Canyon-Central and Devil/Ybarra Canyons-Central Project Areas, Chatsworth area, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Ms. Skei presented the staff report for this item.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Cacciotti, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-111.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Treanor, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-111.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

- 12a. Consideration of resolution authorizing a loan made pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 33202(d) to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority to acquire the 80 acre Brown's Canyon Webb parcel (APN 2821-009-026).**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Lange.

Comments were made by Ms. Collins.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Beatty, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-111(a).

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CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Ross, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-111(a).

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

- 13. Consideration of resolution recommending that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority acquire APNs 2821-008-023 and 037; 2821-009-026 and 027; 2821-014-014; 2821-015-004; 2821-016-008 and 009; 2821-019-006, 008, 027, 029, 031, and 033 in the Browns Canyon-Central and Devil/Ybarra Canyons-Central Project Areas using Proposition A Excess funds, private funds, and Deerlake Highlands Improvement funds, Chatsworth area, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Corridori, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-112.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-112.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Ross.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

Comments were made by Mr. Ross and the Chair.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

- 14. Consideration of resolution authorizing a comment letter to the City of Los Angeles on the Proposed San Gabriel/Verdugo Mountains Scenic Preservation Specific Plan.**

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by Ms. Skei and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

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Comments were made by Ms. Skei and the Executive Director.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-113.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Zasloff, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-113.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**15. Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for rehabilitation of Mulholland Scenic Overlooks and trailheads in the Santa Monica Mountains Zone.**

The Executive Director presented the staff report on this item.

Comments were made by the Chair.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Read, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-114.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Daniel, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-114.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**16. Consideration of resolution awarding nonprofit organization grant to People for Parks Charitable Fund for Montecito Heights acquisition study, Los Angeles.**

This item was postponed to a later date.

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**17. Consideration of resolution adopting FY 2002-03 budget of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority and authorizing any grants necessary to implement such budget.**

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Bullard.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Bullard.

Questions were propounded by the Chair.

Comments were made by Ms. Bullard.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Rockenstein.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Bullard.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Seifert, duly seconded, the Advisory Committee recommended adoption of Resolution No. 02-116.

Questions were propounded by Mr. Zasloff.

Comments were made by the Executive Director and Ms. Chung.

CONSERVANCY CONSIDERATION:

On motion of Mr. Treanor, duly seconded, the Conservancy adopted Resolution No. 02-116.

*(The full text of this resolution is attached.)*

**18. Closed Session: (The Conservancy may hold a closed session on the following items**

**pursuant to Section 11126 Subdivision (c)(7)(A), Section 11126.3(a), and Section 11126 Subdivision (e) of the Government Code. Confidential memoranda related to the following items may be considered during such closed session discussions.) Discussion and possible action regarding pending and/or potential litigation: *Tucker v. Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority et al.*; *City of Malibu v. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy*; *City of Malibu v. California Coastal Commission, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Ramirez Canyon Preservation Fund v. California Coastal Commission,***

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***Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy et al.*; *Malibu-Encinal Home Owners Association, Inc. v. Lechuza Villas West, LLP, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, State Coastal Conservancy et al.***

No closed session was held.

**19. Announcement of future meetings and adjournment.**

Comments were made by the Chair, Mr. Daniel, the Executive Director, and Mr. Lange.

The Chair announced that the next meeting would be held on September 23, 2002.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved:

JOSEPH T. EDMISTON, AICP  
Executive Director

MICHAEL BERGER  
Chair